POL 14 VIETS

Department of State TELEGRAM

(1341)

CONFIDENTIAL

Saigon 8567
10-14-67

EXCISE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08567 141106Z

85
ACTION EA 19

INFO OPR 03,SS 01,RSC 01,USIA 12,H 02,NSC 10,L 03,INR 07,P 04,CIA 04
DOD 01,SP 02,SS 35,NSAE 00,SAL 01,AID 30,SAH 03,RSR 01,/139 W

R 140815Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8816

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Sanborn DATE 1/26/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8567

FOL TEL RECD THIS STATION FROM DANANG DATED OCT 13 DANANG 240 RPTD YOUR STATION

QUOTE

DANANG 240

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTION IN DANANG

b-1
ed

1. CONOFF DISCUSSED DANANG LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS WITH [redacted]

2 [redacted] STATES THAT WITH SCRATCHING OF NGUYEN CONG KINH BECAUSE

PAGE 2 RUOJTR 8567 C O N F I D E N T I A L
OF DRAFT [redacted] TUS, GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCE IN DANANG DIOCESE NOW LOBBYING FOR NGUYEN BA NGAC AS CATHOLIC CANDIDATE. [redacted] SAYS NGAC, A NORTHERNER, LIVES IN OUTLYING CATHOLIC PARISH OF AN HOA AND IS FRIEND OF [redacted]
[redacted] NGAC IS OLD (68), RETIRED SERVANT.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08567 141106Z

3. [ ] SAYS THAT CHOICE OF "MOST OTHER" CATHOLICS IS DOAN CONG QUYEN. [ ] CLAIMS QUYEN WAS ORIGINAL CHOICE OF DANANG CATHOLIC GROUPS FOR CA ELECTIONS BUT THAT HE REFUSED, FORCING EVENTUAL RELUCTANT CHOICE OF BUI VAN GIAI. [ ] SAYS QUYEN'S REFUSAL TO RUN IN CA RACE HAS LEFT SOME RESENTMENT AMONG CATHOLICS BUT HE STILL MOST LETTERED AND ATTRACTIVE CANDIDATE AMONG GENERALLY UNEXCITING GROUP.

4. [ ] BELIEVES BUDDHISTS FIND TEMSELVES IN "SITUATION SIMILAR TO CATHOLICS". MILITANT GROUP SUPPORTS PHAN XUAN HUY, FORMER CHAIRMAN 1964 DANANG PEOPLE'S NATIONAL SALVATION COUNCIL (STRUGGLE TWO) WHILE MOST OTHER BUDDHIST SUPPORT VUONG DUY QUYNH WHO [ ] CLAIMS IS RESPECTED BUDDHIST BACKED CANDIDATE FOR CIEV-ERA ELECTION.

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 8567 C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. [ ] SEES LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS AS ESSENTIALLY STRUGGLE BETWEEN CATHOLIC AND BUDDHIST GROUPS FOR SIGNIFICANT SWING VOTE WITHOUT STRONG RELIGIOUS LOYALTIES. HE VIEWS LOCAL DAI VIETS AS VERY WEAK AND VNSDD AS HOPELESSLY DIVIDED. CVT MEMBERS GENERALLY RESPOND FIRST TO OTHER LOYALTIES AS WAS DEMONSTRATED IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. FURTHERMORE, [ ] STATES, LOCAL CVT LEADERSHIP WILL NOT STRONGLY SUPPORT NGUYEN BUOI WHO IS SAIGON RESIDENT CHOSEN BY CVT LEADERSHIP.

6. COMMENT: [ ] HAS ALSO CITED QUYEN AS MOST LIKELY CATHOLIC QUYEN IS. MOREOVER, REVOLUTIONARY DAI VIET MEMBER AND WHOSE PARTY AFFILIATION THOUGH NOT GENERALLY KNOWN IS KNOWN TO [illegible] ATHOLIC LEADERS. AS RELATIVELY YOUNG, WIDEL AND "LEFT RED" CATHOLIC POTENTIALLY CAPABLE OF ATTRAC VOTE QUYE[illegible] WILL MOST LIKELY BE ONE OF CATHOLIC CANDID[illegible]

7. [illegible] IN MAKING

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 08567 141106Z

PAGE 4 RUMJTR 8567 C O N F I D E N T I A L
DECISION CATHOLICS MUST BE AWARE THAT APPROXIMATELY 44 PERCENT
DANANG VOTE IN SEPT 3 ELECTION WENT TO AN QUANG SPONSORED
CANDIDATE SUU. IF AN QUANG BUDDHISTS SUPPORT TWO CANDIDATES,
CATHOLICS COULD DECIDE BEST CAUSE OF ACTION WOULD BE
TO THROW SUPPORT BEHIND SOME NON-CATHOLIC CANDIDATES IN
HOPE THAT LOCAL NATURE OF ELECTION WOULD MAKE APPROXIMATELY
17 PERCENT CATHOLIC VOTE DECISIVE.
HAVE STATED SUCH ACTION WAS AT LEAST BEING STUDIED.

b-1
ed

KOREN UNQUOTE BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED